

Minutes of the Finance Committee
Tuesday, October 12, 2004

Chair Haukohl called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Supervisors Pat Haukohl (Chair), Don Broesch, Jim Behrend, Bonnie Morris, Joe Marchese, Genia Bruce and Ken Herro.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Mark Mader, Community Development Coordinator Glen Lewinski, Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Senior Financial Analyst Mike Baniel, Emergency Management Coordinator Jim Maleug, Budget Manager Keith Swartz, Chairman Jim Dwyer, Office Services Coordinator Windy Jicha, Senior Financial Analyst Clara Daniels.

Fund Transfer 2004-0-3: Emergency Management – Transfer Funds from Fixed Assets to Operating Expenses and Interdepartmental Charges

Maleug said we received federal grant funding in 2003 and eventually the grant was closed. He said expenditures for budgeted fixed asset equipment to be purchased with funding provided from the Homeland Security Grant FY03 Part II were appropriated with Enrolled Ordinance 158-109. Subsequent to this appropriation, expenditures of \$21,000 for video surveillance at the Waukesha County Communication Center were deemed ineligible. Also, a project to provide a trunk radio channel bank upgrade to provide a system redundant backup for \$28,000 was budgeted as a fixed asset item. This should have been designated an operating expense because there are multiple components to the system, and no one component exceeded the county fixed asset threshold of \$5,000. This change will increase operating expenses to increase small equipment appropriations as the funds intended for video surveillance equipment were used to purchase equipment requested by the Town of Brookfield.

MOTION: Morris moved, Herro second, to approve Fund Transfer 2004-0-3.

Esler asked about equipment to the Communications Center. Why was it deemed ineligible? Maleug said the equipment was ineligible because the items were included in a capital project. Esler asked why did we think we could get more money from a grant if the items were included in a capital project? Maleug said the Public Works Department requested this equipment. He takes it in good faith that county departments will not request money for items from grants that are already covered in the budget. These items are ineligible.

Herro asked how does Maleug prioritize who gets this type of grant money? Maleug said they put together a list. A peer group of fire chiefs review fire department submissions. The police chiefs were not interested forming such a group to make police department decisions. The Local Emergency Planning Committee reviews the submitted list and department recommendations and then gives staff direction on prioritizing.

Herro asked if anyone watches the process to see that it's fair? Maleug said the Local Emergency Planning Committee does. They look at where the greatest risks are. They also try to spread grant funds out to both small and large communities and make programs as comprehensive as possible.

Motion carried: 7-0.

Ordinance 159-O-056: Execute Subgrantee Agreements, HUD Grant Agreement and Funding Application for Final Statement of Objectives and Projected Use of Funds and Expenditure for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs for the 2005 Program Year

MOTION: Herro moved, Broesch second, to approve Ordinance 159-O-056.

Lewinski said this ordinance authorizes the county to execute agreements with the federal government to accept up to the estimated amount of \$4,730,000 of CDBG grant funding which includes \$1,230,000 of program income. The amount of \$4,730,000 is consistent with the proposed 2005 budget. In addition, agreements would be executed with the subgrantees in accordance with the final “statement of objectives” and use of funds” detailing the allocations of the funds. If the HUD funding allocation awards are less than the estimated amount, an appropriate reduction of subgrantee grant amounts will be required by the CDBG and HOME Consortium Boards and a notification will be sent to the Finance Committee. The Community Development expenditures will be limited to the amount of the award notifications. If the appropriation is greater than estimated, an ordinance to appropriate the additional funding would require future County Board approval to increase the CDBG and HOME program expenditure and revenue budgets accordingly. This ordinance also authorizes the acceptance of federal community development funding for various subgrantee awards for the county’s UW-Extension office in the amount of \$179,500.

Herro said regarding grant money going to the Village of Hartland and the Town of Mukwonago for Smart Growth, at the board meeting tonight, we are approving an ordinance that will give these communities money for Smart Growth. Are they double dipping? Lewinski said they are probably getting funds from several different areas. With these types of programs, there’s a funding match. No one gets full funding. The contracts specify how granted money can be used by each organization. Over the past few years, 15 communities have used the grants for Smart Growth. If they receive more money than they need, it is their responsibility to come back to the board and have the money reappropriated for different uses.

Lewinski said La Case serves a neighborhood revitalization area (NSRA). There are very few of these areas in the county because to qualify, 51% or more of the residents need to be at or below the poverty line. NSRA qualify for more grant funding than other areas.

Esler asked when does the time limit expire on applying for ADA funds? Lewinski said it doesn’t. They are redoing and updating their existing ADA improvements they made 20 years ago.

Motion carried: 7-0.

MOTION: Bruce moved, Broesch second, to adjourn at 5:55 p.m. Motion carried: 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie J. Morris
Secretary